

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KITAURA et al. Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No.: 10/808,962 Group Art Unit: 2655  
Filed: March 24, 2004 Docket: 10873.1424US01  
Confirmation No.: 6332  
Title: OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE MEDIUM, AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RECORDING INFORMATION USING THE MEDIUM

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 25, 2004.

By:   
Name: Jennifer Holden

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**23552**  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

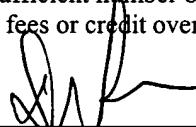
Sir:

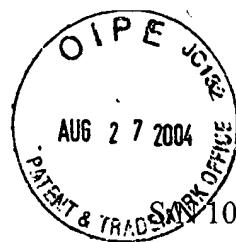
We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 10 References
- Other: European Search Report
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By:   
Name: Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300  
DPM/jh



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|             |  |                 |                |
|-------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| Applicant:  | KITAURA et al.   | Examiner:       | Unknown        |
| Serial No.: | 10/808,962   | Group Art Unit: | 2655           |
| Filed:      | March 24, 2004   | Docket No.:     | 10873.1424US01 |
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By: Jennifer Holden  
Name: Jennifer Holden

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the European Search Report. At least some of the references were recently cited in a European Search Report mailed March 8, 2004.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. Patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: August 25, 2004

By:   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/jh

**23552**

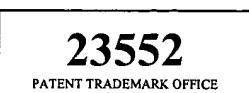
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|---|--|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br/>IN AN APPLICATION<br/>(Use several sheets if necessary)</p> |  |  | Docket Number:<br>10873.1424US01 | Application Number:<br>10/808,962 |
|   |  |  | Applicant: KITAURA et al.        | Filing Date: March 24, 2004       |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS    |              |         |                 |       |          |                            |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------|-----------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| EXAMINER INITIAL         | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE    | NAME            | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|                          | 5,784,355    | 07.1998 | Abe             |       |          |                            |
|                          | 6,280,810    | 08.2001 | Nakamura et al. |       |          |                            |
|                          | 6,388,978    | 05.2002 | Ogawa et al.    |       |          |                            |
|                          | 2002/0187424 | 12.2002 | Nagata et al.   |       |          |                            |
|                          |              |         |                 |       |          |                            |
|                          |              |         |                 |       |          |                            |
|                          |              |         |                 |       |          |                            |
|                          |              |         |                 |       |          |                            |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |              |         |                 |       |          |                            |
|                          | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE    | COUNTRY         | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION                |
|                          |              |         |                 |       |          | YES                        |
|                          | 1 351 229    | 10.2003 | EP              |       |          |                            |
|                          | 1 324 326    | 07.2003 | EP              |       |          |                            |
|                          | 2001-126252  | 10.1999 | EP              |       |          | Abstract                   |
|                          | 1 213 715    | 06.2002 | EP              |       |          |                            |
|                          | 0 706 177    | 04.1996 | EP              |       |          |                            |
|                          | 5-926663     | 03.1991 | Japan           |       |          | Abstract                   |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|---|-----------------|
| EXAMINER  | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant. |                 |